



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 11, 2002

S. 2937

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Act of 2002

*As reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on October 8, 2002*

S. 2937 would establish the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area in North Carolina. Under the bill, the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Partnership would be the management entity, and develop a plan for increasing public awareness, encouraging economic development, and establishing interpretive sites in the heritage area. The bill also would require the Secretary of the Interior to approve the plan before providing any federal funds to the partnership for implementing its activities. For all of these purposes, S. 2937 would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million, not to exceed \$1 million annually.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 2937 would cost \$10 million over the next 10 to 15 years. Such amounts would be used to cover a portion of the costs of protecting and enhancing the heritage area. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 2937 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Rachel Milberg. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.